

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 06094 011231Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

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R 011145Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5385

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

S E C R E T ANKARA 6094

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, CY, TU

SUBJECT: NEXT STEPS IN CYPRUS: TURK VIEWS

1. COURTESY CALLS AT FONOFF THIS MORNING BY NEWLY-ARRIVED DCM GAVE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR SOME CURRENT TURKISH VIEWS ABOUT NEXT STEPS IN CYPRUS.

2. DIRECTOR WESTERN DEPARTMENT SEBUKCEBE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF FEDERATION SOLUTION AS ONLY WORKABLE OUTCOME. HE SAID THAT THIS WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO INCLUDE EXCHANGE OF POPULATIONS ON ISLAND AT SOME STAGE SO THAT TURKS COULD BE LARGELY CONCENTRATED IN AREA WHICH WAS UNDER PROTECTION OF A PERMANENT TURKISH MILITARY PRESENCE. SEBUKCEBE EMPHASIZED THAT THESE WERE PRESONAL VIEWS AS TURKISH OFFICIAL POSITION STILL IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT.

3. SOYSAL, DIRECTOR GENERAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS, WAS MUCH MORE OUTSPOKEN AND EXTREMELY FRNAK. HE DID MOST OF THE TALKING DURING 45-MINUTE DISCUSSION. THEME OF HIS PRESENTATION WAS THAT USG IN ITS APPRAISAL OFONGOING SITUATION MUST GIVE PROPER WEIGHT TO LEGITIMATE TURKISH SECURITY CONCERNS. HE VIEWS CYPRUS PROBLEM ALMOST ENTIRELY IN TERMS OF TURKISH SECURITY. HE WAS FRANK TO SAY THAT CONCERN FOR TURKISH

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SECRET

PAGE 02 ANKARA 06094 011231Z

POPULATION ON ISLAND AMOUNTED TO 10 PERCENT OR LESS OF TURKISH

POSITION. "AFTER ALL, THERE ARE TURKISH-SPEAKING PEOPLES IN SYRIA AND IRAQ WE COULD GET CONCERNED ABOUT IF WE HAD TO BUT WE DON'T PLAN ON DOING THAT." HE STRESSED TURKISH APPREHENSION OF ISOLATION IF A GOVERNMENT HOSTILE TO TURKEY HELD NOT ONLY AEGEAN ISLANDS BUT ALSO CYPRUS.

4. SOYSAL MADE STRONG ARGUMENT THAT TURKISH CONTRIBUTION TO SECURITY EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN WAS ACTUALLY AND POTENTIALLY MUCH GREATER THAN ANYTHING GREECE HAD TO OFFER. TURKEY WAS GREATER MILITARY POWER, TURKS WERE INSTINCTIVELY AND PERMANENTLY DISTRUSTFUL OF RUSSIA AND TURKS HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES INCLUDING SOME ARAB STATES. (AMONG ARAB STATES HE MENTIONED WERE SYRIA, IRAQ, LIBYA, ALGERIA AND MOROCCO. HE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED EGYPT FROM THIS HONOR ROLL.) HE THEREFORE HOPED USG WOULD VIEW SITUATION IN COLD BLOODED SECURITY TERMS AND REALIZE ADVANTAGES TO WESTERN INTERESTS AS A WHOLE IN PERMANENT TURKISH MILITARY PRESENCE ON ISLAND. HE THOUGHT TURKISH POSITION AT SECOND STAGE GENEVA DISCUSSIONS WOULD FAVOR FEDERAL SOLUTION ON ISLAND BUT HE BRUSHED THIS ASIDE AS SECONDARY TO TURKISH DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN PERMANENT MILITARY PRESENCE THERE.

5. BOTH OF TURKISH INTERLOCUTORS TOOK LINE THAT WHILE THERE HAD BEEN DIVERGENCE OF APPRAISALS OF SITUATION BETWEEN US AND TURKEY DURING EARLY STAGES OF CRISIS, THINGS HAD RAPIDLY IMPROVED AND THEY FELT THERE WAS PRESENTLY A GREAT DEAL OF UNDERSTANDING.

6. ON RUSSIANS, SOYSAL WITH SOME AMUSEMENT SAID THEY WERE PLAYING DEVIOUS AND RATHER CLUMSY GAMES. HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT IN DUE COURSE AND AFTER CONSIDERING OTHER ALTERNATIVES RUSSIANS WOULD COME AROUND TO ACCEPTING IDEA OF TURKISH PERMANENT MILITARY PRESENCE ON CYPRUS.

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